THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, July 11, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,709,374,137,996.57, five trillion, seven hundred nine billion, three hundred seventy-four million, one hundred thirty-seven thousand, nine hundred ninety-six dollars and fifty-seven cents.

One year ago, July 11, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,665,065,000,000, five trillion, six hundred sixty-five billion, sixty-five million.

Five years ago, July 11, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,152,640,000,000, five trillion, one hundred fifty-two billion, six hundred forty million.

Ten years ago, July 11, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,536,904,000,000, three trillion, five hundred thirty-six billion, nine hundred four million.

Fifteen years ago, July 11, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$2,068,672,000,000, two trillion, sixty-eight billion, six hundred seventy-two million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$3.5 trillion, \$3,640,702,137,996.57, three trillion, six hundred forty billion, seven hundred two million, one hundred thirty-seven thousand, nine hundred ninety-six dollars and fifty-seven cents during the past 15 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS ROCHESTER COUNCIL NO. 2048

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Knights of Columbus Council No. 2048 of Rochester, NH, on the creation of the successful Future Unlimited Banquet Program. Future Unlimited is an annual event which recognizes the Valedictorians and Salutatorians from eight high schools in the Seacoast region of New Hampshire.

The eight high schools represented in the program include: St. Thomas Aquinas High School, Berwick, ME, Dover High School, Somersworth High School, Farmington High School, Nute High School, Alton High School, Kingswood Regional High School and Spaulding High School.

I commend the Knights of Columbus Rochester Council for their recognition of the scholastic achievements of the high school seniors in the Seacoast region. As a former schoolteacher, I applaud the efforts of the Knights of Columbus for rewarding students who have established goals and high standards of excellence in their academic, extracurricular and civic endeavors.

The Knights of Columbus Rochester Council No. 2048 have served the citizens of Rochester and our state with pride and honor. The young men and women in the Seacoast region are blessed to have the encouragement and support of an organization which recognizes the qualities of hard work, perseverance and dedication. It is truly an honor and a privilege to represent them in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO LES AND MARILYN GORDON

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Les and Marilyn Gordon, owners of The Candlelite Inn in Bradford, NH, on being named as Inn of the Year by the Complete Guide to Bed & Breakfast Inns and Guesthouses in the United States, Canada and Worldwide.

Built in 1897, The Candlelite Inn has provided a relaxing atmosphere for visiting guests for over 100 years. The Gordons purchased the Inn in 1993, and have successfully continued the tradition of accommodating the needs of discriminating travelers touring the Lake Sunapee Region.

Throughout the year The Candlelite Inn hosts special weeks for their guests to enjoy including: Currier & Ives Maple Sugar Weekend in March, Old Glory Heritage Tours in July, August and September, Foliage Midweek Getaways in September and October, and Murder Mystery Parties throughout the year.

I commend Les and Marilyn for the economic contributions they have made to the hospitality and tourism industries in our state. The citizens of Bradford, and New Hampshire, have benefitted from their dedication to quality and service at The Candlelite Inn. It is truly an honor and a privilege to represent them in the U.S. Senate.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY'S LIVING LEGENDS TOUR

• Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ford Motor Company's Living Legend Tour featuring the new 2002 Thunderbird and the Mustang Bullitt GT. These Ford vehicles will drive across Missouri from July 18-20, allowing Missourians to view them. Ford Motor Company and its employees, including the men and women of the United Auto Workers, have been instrumental in keeping Missouri's economy strong and our communities prosperous. More than 8,000 Missourians are employed in Ford assembly plants, credit locations, and dealerships across the state. We are gifted with a strong automotive industry in both the Kansas City and St. Louis areas.

In addition, at each stop along this tour, Ford is raising money for the Missouri Children's Trust Fund, which is a nonprofit organization started by the state legislature in 1983. This organization provides education and training to reduce abusive situations for

children, while creating a friendly environment for them to thrive.

I am very pleased to welcome this automobile tour to Missouri to demonstrate the quality of these vehicles and highlight the hard work and the generosity of Ford's Missouri employees. Thank you to all Ford employees across the State for making me proud to be a Missourian ●

HONORING INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI AS AN ALL-AMERICAN CITY

• Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President. I am proud to take this opportunity to honor a very special place in Missouri. On Saturday, June 23rd, Independence, MO, the hometown of Harry S. Truman, was selected as an All-American City. The All-American City Competition is the Nation's oldest award for civic accomplishment. The winning cities serve as "models of exemplary grass-roots problem solving."

A 51-member delegation of business interests, community leaders, and nonprofit organizations came together to lead Independence's participation in the competition. While community partnerships are sprouting up in cities across America, Independence is in a league of its own. Under the leadership of Mayor Ron Stewart, Independence has achieved a real sense of unity and community. So many different entities with widely divergent interests were recognized for their ability to successfully work together when faced with civic challenges.

Independence's winning presentation, appropriately themed "Together We Can," highlighted recent citywide improvements such as cleaning up the historic Truman district, a sales tax approved by the voters to repair streets and parks, and the William Chrisman High School program which involved youth in public service programs. Furthermore, even Independence's physical presence at the competition was a effort. Community united groups worked together to raise funds to pay for the trip and prepare the presentation. This truly exceptional community certainly deserves its prestigious recognition as an All-American City.

Congratulations to Mayor Ron Stewart, participation coordinator Larry Kaufman, the delegation, and the residents of Independence. Your passionate work epitomizes the unlimited possibilities of cooperation. Thank you for making me proud to be a Missourian.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages